

Kid-Zone St Ann's

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY361023

Inspection date 09 June 2008

Inspector Chris Scully

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Registered person Joy Brobyn

Type of inspection Childcare

Type of care Out of School care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Kid-Zone St Ann's registered in 2007. It is one of three settings owned and managed by an individual. It operates from five rooms within St Ann's C of E Primary School in Rainhill. A maximum of 32 children may attend the setting at any one time. The setting operates Monday to Friday during term time from 07.45 till 09.00 and 14.00 till 18.00.

There are currently 38 children under eight years on roll. The setting also provides care for 21 children up to 11 years. Children attending the out of school provision are pupils at the school. The setting is able to provide care for children with learning difficulties or disabilities.

The setting employs three members of staff plus two support staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications. The setting receives support from Sure Start.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in an appropriate environment. Children are beginning to develop an understanding of the need for good hygiene routines. However, they do not always wash their hands before snack time, which does not minimise the risk of cross infection. Cleaning routines are in place and are supported by school staff. However, staff do not consistently wash their hands or the food preparation areas before making the children's snack. This does not promote the need for good hygiene.

Children's health is suitably promoted as regulatory procedures are in place for the administration of medication and the recording of accidents. Appropriate policies and procedures relating to care for sick children are in place and are shared with parents. Some staff are trained in first aid, which means children's accidents are handled appropriately. Outside, children participate in team games, including football and parachute games. Whilst indoors they play games, such as what's the time Mr Wolf and traffic lights.

Children have good access to jugs of fresh water at any time of the day so that they can keep themselves refreshed. The setting is aware of the importance of providing a healthy diet for children. It has begun to revise the menus to include more healthy options and to link in with the schools healthy eating policy. The café style snack time works well and means children can choose when to have their snack. However, the practice of some children sitting to eat at games consoles or wandering around whilst eating does not promote a relaxed social occasion.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment. Areas used by the children are appropriately organised so that children have freedom of movement, and sufficient space to enjoy vigorous and quiet activities as they choose. Children have access to a suitable range of toys and resources. The toys, games and other equipment are of a good quality, well maintained, suitable for their purpose and regularly checked so that children are able to play safely. However, there are limited resources for children to rest or relax upon.

Most risks have been identified and minimised. Risk assessments are in place, however, there are no monitoring systems in place to ensure identified risks, such as the leaking toilet are addressed and the area is now safe for children to use. The premises and equipment are checked on a daily basis prior to the children arriving. The setting is mainly secure and children are well supervised by staff. Although, on several occasions other staff use the room as a thorough fare to the car park or to gain access to storage units. This does not effectively promote children's safety. Children learn to keep themselves safe through discussions with staff, and through gentle reminders about what may happen if they swing on their chair.

Staff have a sound understanding of child protection. Some have attended safeguarding training and have shared this information with other staff members. Staff are aware of the action to take should they have concerns about a child and the contact numbers for the appropriate agencies are to hand. This means children are protected from harm.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff have a pleasant and warm manner with the children, thus, positive relationships have been formed and children are happy and settled. Children are keen to engage staff in conversation and involve them in what they are doing. Activities are planned on a weekly basis by staff in conjunction with the children. However, these are not currently formalised. Children are actively engaged in a range of self chosen play activities, such as creating their Fathers Day cards. Children are confident to ask for additional resources, such as the clay and spend considerable amounts of time creating their masterpieces.

Children enjoy the opportunities to use games consoles and happily set these up under the supervision of staff. They play well together and instigate a turn taking system. Younger children enjoy the opportunities to engage in pretend play, For example the enjoy making and selling pretend food. They negotiate their individual roles and encourage others to join in the fun. Others take pleasure in building with a range of construction kits and giggle as the erect tall towers, which the happily knock down.

Children chat cheerfully to visitors and tell them about their forthcoming play the 'Thingy me bob!' and the parts they are to play. Children share resources well and talk animatedly to their friends about the character cards they have brought to the setting. They enthusiastically describe their favourite characters, dances and songs from the film. Children state that they enjoy their time at the setting as they have fun.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's needs, individual circumstances and preferences are known to staff and are met appropriately in practice. Staff are knowledgeable about the children in their care, which means all children receive good care from staff. This is supported well by the information sourced from parents. Children have some opportunities to explore the wider world through planned activities and events, such as Chinese New Year and food tasting sessions. However, they have limited access to resources depicting diversity. This hinders their ability to understand their immediate and wider world.

Children are very well behaved. Staff supports them well and involve them in the decision making processes of the setting. They are invited and expected to contribute to the club's rules and acceptable codes of conduct. They are respectful of each other and positively mirror the pleasant and polite attitude of the staff. Children are very caring with one another and independently help each other without prompting from adults, such as older children providing support to others on the games consoles. Appropriate systems are in place to support children with learning difficulties or disabilities.

The partnership with parents is satisfactory as there are clear methods of sharing information both formally and informally. Thus, staff are clear about what actions to take to ensure that the children's individual needs and parental preferences are fully met. Staff are very welcoming as they smile and engage visitors in conversation on arrival. Daily discussion and regular newsletters about what the children have been doing effectively supports and maintains the communication, so that setting continues to meet their individual needs.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by qualified staff. Induction systems are in place as are vetting procedures for new staff. Although, some information relating to staff Criminal Records Bureau checks is not available. Staff have opportunities to attend training courses in order to enhance their knowledge base and to improve the care and opportunities provided to children. Recent training includes risk assessments, conflict resolution and safeguarding children. Clear systems for organising staff rotas and contingency plans, ensures that staff deployment is appropriate and that children benefit from the support of familiar adults. However, at the time of inspection the setting was operating outside of the registered age group. This is a breach of the National Standards.

Policies and procedures which contribute to the health, safety and well-being of the children are in place and are shared well with parents. However, the setting has not informed Ofsted of a significant accident and the attendance register does not accurately reflect children's attendance. Other records and documentation are effectively maintained. All consents are in place which means children are cared for in line with their parents wishes.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints, which parents can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure appropriate systems are in place for children to wash their hands at appropriate times and ensure children are seated when eating

- ensure when completing risk assessments clear information is included as to how any identified risk or hazards, are to be minimised; within this record include prompt timescales for monitoring and review and monitor the use of the room by other staff
- ensure children have access to resource which promote diversity
- ensure the actual times of children's attendance is recorded and Ofsted is informed of any significant accidents
- operate within the registered age groups at all times.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk